



## GROUP DISCUSSION

- ❑ **CONFIDENTIALITY** | What's said in the group stays in the group.
- ❑ **NO CROSS-TALK** | Be considerate of others as they share. Refrain from side conversations and texting during group time.
- ❑ **NO FIXING** | We are not in the group to fix each other. Jesus does that part.
- ❑ **SHARING** | Be sensitive to the amount of time you share. Don't talk too much or too little. Every person brings something valuable to the group.



## INTRODUCTION

*As your group time begins, use this section to introduce the topic of discussion.*

# FAITH IN THE STORM

We can't predict when life's storms will hit. They often come unexpectedly and can make us feel afraid, powerless, and helpless. No one can escape life's storms. Sooner or later they come blowing our way. But the good news is that Jesus is with us in the storm.

This week your group will look at a time when Jesus taught Peter and the disciples about what it means to have faith during the storm.

**Q:** *Share about a recent storm you experienced in life, whether big or small.*



## DEEPER DIVE

Select 2–3 questions to discuss as a group.

# THE WINDS AND WAVES OBEY HIM

Already in this series we've seen that Jesus has the power to heal. This week we will see that even the winds and waves are obedient to Him. Jesus has authority over all creation, which means we don't have to be afraid in the midst of the storm. Let's see what happened when Jesus's disciples found themselves in a storm and how Jesus used the storm to teach them.

Q: Have a volunteer read Matthew 14:22-32. Describe the emotions that the disciples would have had in the story.

Q: How do you relate to both Peter's faith and fear?




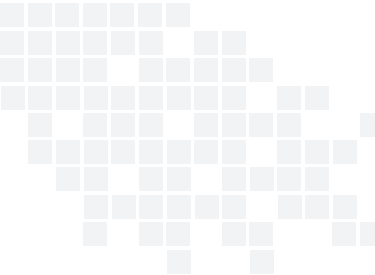
## REFLECTION AND NEXT STEPS

Select 2–3 questions from this section to answer.

# FAITH IN GOD'S WORD

Not even the storms of life can prevent us from having crazy faith. Let's look at three essential truths that give us faith in life's storms:<sup>1</sup>

- *Jesus brought me here.* Not all storms come because of our disobedience. Sometimes they come because of our obedience. The disciples were obedient to Jesus and the storm still came. Often God uses storms to grow our faith so that we rely on Him and His care for us.
- *Jesus will come to me.* Jesus was testing His disciples' faith by waiting until the ship was far from land before coming to them. Being in the storm can make us feel abandoned by God. "Why did you allow this to happen to me?" "Where are you?" The truth is, Jesus is always with us in the storm. The storm can bring you closer to Him when you look to Him in the midst of it.
- *Jesus will see me through.* Despite Peter's fear and doubt, Jesus made sure that he and the rest of the



disciples made it safely through the storm. Like Peter, we may fail along the way in life. We may have fears and doubts, but we can have hope and faith in Jesus who promises to see us through the storm. Fear may see only the storm, but faith sees Jesus who rules over the storm.

Q: *How might difficult circumstances increase your faith in God?*

Q: *Crazy faith is grounded in God's Word. What does it mean to be grounded in His Word?*

Q: *What's one change you can make this week to look to Jesus and follow His Word?*



## PRAY

Praise God that He has authority over His creation and over the storms that come into your life. Ask His Spirit to reveal any fears or doubts that are keeping you from the kind of faith He desires for you. Pray for eyes to see Him in life's storms and for a heart to receive His Word and live by it faithfully.

### ENDNOTES:

1. List adapted from Warren W. Wiersbe, *The Bible Exposition Commentary, vol. 1* (Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1996), 51–53.